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on Epilepsy

V I shall begin my remarks upon this
disease by making a humiliating
acknowledgement - that is - that I can
not cure it, and of course that I can:
not teach you how to cure it.

VI In entering upon the consideration of
this disease, I feel like King Richard ^{who} ~~after~~
~~to~~ ^{when} ~~was~~ dismounted ~~by the~~ in battle ~~and~~
cried out "a horse -- a horse -- ^{my} ~~a~~ kingdom
for a horse" - In like manner ^{gent.} I feel
disposed to begin my lecture upon Epilepsy
by saying "a Remedy! - a remedy! - a
kingdom for a remedy for it!" - after all
that I have ^{collected} ~~much~~ ~~reading~~ - study and experience upon
it I am sorry to acknowledge that I cannot
cure it, & of course, that I cannot teach you
how to cure it: turn over to —

Epilepsy √

but improperly
© It has been defined, a Convulsion of the
muscles of the body, attended with Sleep. It
now & then exists without Sleep, & with no, or feeble Convulsions.
It was called *morbus Convulsivus*

by the Ancients *furor* or the falling sickness,
from its occasionally occurring in public
Assemblies. to p 2. (a)

Johannes Crato, an eminent physician
in Germany, & architect to 3 successive
Emperors, earnestly desired to live till
he sh^d hear of a satisfactory theory of this
disease. He died without being gratified
in his benevolent wish, & had he lived to
this day he would not have been happier
in the attainment of the object of his
wishes than when he died. I have that
I read much upon it, & am sorry to
say, I know but little more about

✓ of this I have given you ~~mostifying~~ proofs
in my ~~total~~ want of sleep in the cases for
which I have prescribed in the P. hospital.

✓ hence its paroxysms most generally occur
in the night.

+ [Mr] Bichat has distinguished what he
calls irrit^y. - or ⁺ we call - Excitab^y.
from contractility - by the absence of
tone from the nervous - muscular &
vascular fibres in the former case,
& considerable tone in the latter. Thus in
the Typhus there is great contract^y as well
as irrit^y. - whereas in the typhus bilious there is
irrit^y with little contract^y. - now in =

it, than I did 30 ² years ago. I shall only
aim therefore to give you a detail of facts,
a some ~~conjectures~~ ^{relative to this} deplorable disease. In
some happy moment of mental exertion
you may perhaps be able to combine
these facts so as to form a rational theory,
and deduce a graceful ~~mode~~ ^{mode} of practice
from them. ~~for I am once it is not, as it~~
~~cannot be an incurable disease.~~

(A) Debility is certainly its predisposing
cause. Perhaps it owes its peculiar
obstinacy to this debility ^{being deeply seated} occupying at once
the nerves - muscles & the blood vessels, &
imparting to each of them a morbid excitabi-
-lity which invites to convulsive motions
or morbid actions in each of them. This
~~combination~~ of morbid excitability in the
nerves - muscles & blood vessels has been
called by Dr. Fuller mobility. I shall

These grades are ~~5~~ in number
✓ They differ very much in their grades. They are
sometimes so violent according to Linnæus as to
produce an emission of Semen masculinum, and
according to Dr Short, to produce an effusion of blood
from the extremities of the Arteries upon the skin.
I once knew ~~an instance~~ ^{an instance} to take place during a
paroxysm of Epilepsy. The woman ~~and~~ did not feel the
pains usually attendant upon Child bearing, and
wondered when she saw her Child by her side, ~~after~~ ^{where}
it came from, ~~it~~, when her ~~fit~~ ^{fit} was over? But ^{there} are
paroxysms that do not ~~prostrate~~ ^{completely} either the body
or mind. Swedenburgh's visions, but extravagant
visions were the operations of his mind in fits of
Epilepsy. He had them, sitting or on his knees. His
rational faculties ~~are~~ were only partially changed.
The Case I formerly read to you of a man in
Connecticut who was said to have two souls, was
a milder grade of Epilepsy in which thought was
nearly regular, & many actions performed in
order, ^{the forgotten afterwards} ~~but~~ Epilepsy is so feeble as
only to produce ^{only a faintness with a short} a suspension of Speech & walking.
Thought goes on as usual. They go off in this
way by times. In others, the face, eyes are a little convulsed,
without the least interruption of the exercise of the mind. ~~There are~~

^{mobility & excitability}
this ~~condition~~ ^{fits of Epilepsy} differ
~~they hereafter it occurs in Hysteria.~~

from childhood
It affects persons ~~under 15 years of age~~
^{60 & even 75} to 50 years of age. The intervals between
^{I now attend a Division between}
^{50 & 60 in whom it has a} ~~the fits are from~~ ^{of 2 weeks, palsy.} ~~hours to 6 months.~~

They occur oftener in the night, than in
the day time. ~~As~~ I have known two

or three fits to occur & the System to be
^{The convulsions w^{ch} attend dentition & other diseases of the}
^{in young children are transient epilepsies}
free from them ~~ever~~ ^{After}

(if they occur early) sometimes
= 50 they ~~leave~~ ^{go of entirely, or appear}
^{faintly fits of short duration from the}
only in ~~a short faintness~~. They generally
becoming stricken.

shorten life, but I have lately heard of
a man who has lived to be above 80 ^{near Boston}

who had been afflicted severely with them
^{I have read of a mathematician in France who attained with this}
in early or middle life. — They sometimes
disorder the same great age.

impair the memory, but & understanding,
inducing complete fatuity, but they often
continue for years without lessening the

5 related in the German
6 There is a grade of it in which the patient con-
-vulses, but it is Ephemerides in which the patient
involuntarily revealed all that he heard, did,
or thought the day before. 5 There is sometimes
a perfect exercise of the reason & fears with general
convulsions. Dr Bauckhaus & Ephemerides.

✓ ~~is~~ inquiring whether Epilepsy may not
be a deep seated, and widely diffused paroxysm
of fever? - all its remote causes are the same
as exists induce fever, - operating ^{perhaps} with more
force, and bringing on greater debility, and
^{course} of ~~more~~ greater morbid commotions in the
system. Compared with a common paroxysm
of a fever, may it not ^{be} like a sudden hurri-
-cane ^{or tornado,} compared with a steady equinoctial
gale? ~~It~~ ^{more} ~~known~~ ^{than} it is said are affected by it
I was consulted ~~last~~ ⁱⁿ May 1804 by a Gent^l
from Maryland who was one of 3 brothers affec-
-ted with it, and ~~a few weeks ago~~ ^{some time afterwards} by a fourth
from Chester County who with a sister were
affected with it. It is thus you a ^{fatal} ~~family~~
but I have not known it a heredit^y disease.

4
force or operations of any of the faculties
this was the case with ^{as an instance} Casan ^{who was certainly}
of the mind. Epilepsy is sometimes
too of the greatest men in point of intellect & was his.
I succeeded, & alternately with madness.
Two Cases - in Penn. Hospital and Currier 1808.
Turner Case. It proves fatal most

commonly when a fit does not kill
by ending in ^{apoplexy - or} apoplexy: intermus

The blood seems to be confined to the
Arteries chiefly in persons who die of Epilepsy.
Dr Johnson says in depicting a boy who
died of it, very little blood was found in ^{his} ~~its~~
Veins. But Dr Short says he once saw a
notice of this fact, and of the one mentioned
from Dr Short. Do they not show the Arterial
system to be deeply affected in this dis-
-ease? ~~Through these facts are we not authorized~~

✓ The Remote Causes of Epilepsy are:
1 general & 2 local. & 3 Sympathetic.
The 1 are, great intemperance in

Drinking cold water - 7 as in Miss Charlotte's entry 1809 in
✓ ^{hospital} There are instances of its being communicated
by sympathy, or imitation as in the school
at Haslem, & in the Penns: hospital during
the time of the late Dr Hutchinson.

10 It is has been congenial. / A Mrs Knight
in Warrington County Penns: found seeing a person
in fits during her pregnancy brought forth a child
son who she was affected with epilepsy - he
= came an idiot, & died at 18. A Mrs Lusk
in the neighborhood ^(who was pregnant) saw his funeral & asked
her husband whose it was. He answered "Mrs
Knight's foolish son," and then described his
fits by imitating his motions. His wife was
much affected with the history & description of
this boy. Dreamed of him all the preceding
night, & at the end of her pregnancy brought forth
a girl in every respect diseased with fits &
sabbatly like the boy her husband described.

This girl was alive & 19 years of age on the
16 July 1792. I received the informⁿ from
Mrs. & Ferguson - a most correct sensible
woman. 15 ~~was~~ 12 laughing. Vanswieten.
13. his John Pringle

Dr. John Pringle

mentions two cases of it induced in
soldiers by a previous attack of an in-
flammation of the brain. I

V Dissections show nearly the same ap-
pearances which are found after apoplexy
with ~~some~~ exostoses of the bones of the brain,
but ~~most~~ most of these appearances I believe
are the effects, and not the cause of the
disease - for if they were they ought to pro-
duce the same disease. I believe Epilepsy, apo-
plexy, ^{and} palsy ~~and mania~~ and phrenitis or
mania affect ~~in~~ when they exist separately,
different parts of the brain. ~~most parts~~ ^{Dr. Arch^d Campbell} in an ingenious ^{inquiry}
Disquisition lately published in Edin^{burgh} about 1806
says the basis of the brain is affected only in
Epilepsy and palsy - and the whole brain in
apoplexy. I find I said formerly placed the
seat of madness ~~in~~ in the upper or cortical
part of the brain. The phrenitis must occupy
the same place, being an acute form of the same
disease. Hydroceph. ^{internus} probably affects both
the upper & lower parts =

fractures of the Skull. D Potts case. a case 8 years
after a stroke on the head recorded in the Ann. Epilept.
2 malconformation of the brain. 3. +
3 sympathetic often very small

1 Tumors, in different parts of the body &
2 a ragged wart on the ankle. D Short. med. Esq. of Edin
3 perhaps decayed teeth. 5 begins. from it. Baltimore
4 begins.

✓ The Diguse, when once formed is easily re-
-moved by a moderate degree of any exciting
cause, and by Aspiration. The voice of
a distant bell, and even of a horses feet,
excited it in two cases mentioned by Dr
Cullen. A soldier who had deserted, & was
discovered while drinking a mug of beer had
his feet removed for several weeks every
time he attempted to drink. ~~and~~ A pregnant
Lady who stood ²⁰ long under the hands
of a mantrian makes ^{that she} fell into a fit
from weakness. Her feet were removed
every time she saw either her gower
or the mantrian. Until after

✓ Savage relates the case of a woman in whom
apoplexy produced an insurable Attack of this
disease. She was seized with it just as she was en-
-tering the door of a Church. ~~Being~~ ^{she} ~~was~~ ^{her} fits
returned every time she ~~crossed~~ ^{attempted to enter} it afterwards.
- ~~she~~ ^{she} was obliged from this circumstance to receive
the Communion outside of the Church. -

a man who used of it by a Catholic priest on
condition of never going into a ^{Church.} Protestant ~~at~~ the
end of 7 years he went, and was instantly seized with a
fit. Mr Robinson a med. Stud:

a Doctor who was ~~an~~ apprehended while drink-
-ing, fell down in a fit of epilepsy, which returned for
sometimes afterwards when he took a cup with any liquor
✓ 6 By ~~falling~~ ^{to his mouth} ~~and~~ burns from falling

into the fire. 7 By an Attack of mania. It
subsides however ~~for~~ after thus changing into
another disease. 8 Dying. -

== of the brain. Time I hope will deter-
-mine the truth or error of these opinions.

It was cured by childbearing in 2 of the
Sisters of the Gent. from Portugal who
consulted me last year.

her delivery. ⁸
her ~~sewing~~. But fits occur often in the
night than in the day time probably be-
-cause they are ^{often} excited by an association
of ideas in a dream.

Before we proceed to treat of ^{the} cure
of this disease, let us inquire into the
operations of nature in it. Has it ever
been cured by her? - I cannot say it has -
- but time, and certain changes in the
system ^{and accidents} have ~~now~~ removed it. It
has been cured

- 1 By ~~pusillity~~ ^{one instance only of this occurred}
^{under my notice} It was in a woman.
- 2 By ~~parturition~~ ^{pregnancy & childbearing.} #
- 3 By a change of climate & residence.
- 4 By ^{the} hardships of a camp life. They
cured it in Julius Caesar. also by a long
journey - in Genl. Marshall's wife.
- 5 By age. It often begins or goes off at
✓ 50, or 60. Let us remember her these
facts. we shall presently apply them.

0.
~~V. Ansa Epileptica, or a creeping sensation~~

= k

V and ~~the~~ and a sensation like flustering of
one of the eyes from its orbit, and with
something glittering before the eyes.
a Transylvanian in hospital.
+ Emission of Semen & pain above
the pubis. in Mrs. Grier; Berlin 1811.

The Remedies for Epilepsy divide themselves into 3 heads.

1 Such as are proper in its forming state.

2 Such as are proper in the paroxysm,

3 Such as are proper in the intervals of the paroxysms.

1 In order to know when to administer the first Class of Remedies, I shall enumerate ~~rate it for~~ the symptoms of an approach: 1 a bitter taste in the mouth, 2 or 3 days before a fit. 2 an enlargement of the pupils 3 ^{obscure or} Trisitions & false Vision. 4 a tense pulse. 5 a slow pulse. morbus. 6 Head Ach. 7 pain in the right eye - with inflamⁿ of the tunica adnata according to Cullen. 8 a peculiar odor in the breath. Mrs Wood. 9 Costiveness. 10 a redness in the

14 a trembling of the ^{under} ~~upper~~ lip.

15 ~~The last symptom~~ is the Aura Epileptica,
or a creeping sensation rising from the extre-
mities of the lower feet & hands.

16 Singing, dancing - laughing - howling
& running. It is said it attacks Bow-
-part in the last way that has been
event^d - viz running. - those

17 Prematural elevation of all the
mental faculties. A fit of Epilepsy was
always preceded in the late Rev^d Mr Walter
of New Haven by unconscious displays
of genius & eloquence in his prayers
& sermons.)

11 pains in the feet. 12 pimples on
the tongue. 13th a sudden sense of horror
such as ^{is} induced by the near approach of
death. ^{most of} ~~all~~ these premonitory symptoms
have ~~been~~ occurred in my patients, & recorded
at that the time they were communicated
to me. You may faithfully rely upon
them. ^{they did} Not all in any one ^{patient}, - & sometimes
but one of them in a patient.

The Remedies in this forming state of Epilepsy
are 1. V.S. where the pulse is tense, & when
great fulness appears in the blood vessels of ^{the} brain.
2 an Emetic. This is indicated when a bitter
taste is perceived in the mouth.

3 Abstinence from animal food, & the sparing
Use of veg. food.

4 ~~A dose of Opium~~ a gentle purge. It was
often prevented in the Lady Rosswood in whom
it was preceded by a peculiar odor in ^{the} breath.
^{The pulse was sulphur.}
5 A dose of Opium.

#

12

or temples

13 Rubbing the hand on the forehead, & throwing the head back against a wall. Poupert. 14 Shaking the head rapidly. ~~on Frenchmen. Running rapidly.~~ 15 Dashing a bucket of cold water all the head & body. 15 Improving wakefulness for one or two nights. I shall mention its good effects hereafter in preventing fits of hysteria, which usually occur in the night. In sleep, and in bed when the body is in == (a)

✓ the rising of the Aura Epileptica to the head. Dr Wolff. & Dr Loeffler

by Breckman & Cullen.

10 Fear. Girl in Infir^y of Edin². 11 By running, & by suddenly rising out of bed. 12 Keeping the mouth & teeth apart by a piece of wood. - #

✓ In treating of the Remedies that have been occasionally successful in ^{the intervals of} this disease, we have to lament that ~~the~~ no notice is taken of the grade of the Epilepsy in which they have been used. A medicine that will cure its milder grades, will have no ~~more~~ ^{most} effect upon its worst grades. ~~than wasquet balls upon the Rock of Gibraltar.~~ I shall first mention the Remedies proper ~~to~~ in the worst grades that have been described. They are the opposites

out appropriate

6 a Cup of the Juice of Rue. It was thus
 prevented in a man of Virginia. Dr. ^{Wm} Dodding
 in Spoonful of salt in the mouth. a Tonic.

7 The smell of burning Sulphur according to
~~Dr. Rushing of Wingham~~ a Spoonful of

8 Decime of Liverpool commended to be
 applied to the pit of the Stomach half an
 hour before the paroxysm. This Remedy

prevents Intermittents used in this way.

9 Ligatures around the extremities to prevent

11 The Remedies in the pit are but few. When

the Convulsions are violent, & shd be used.

It lessens its violence, & shortens their

Duration. Fresh Air - a loose Collar - free

Movements - & an easy recumbent posture

are of consequence, & they prevent death

in the paroxysm. —

VI 112

~~112 In the Interstices of the fits the Remedies~~

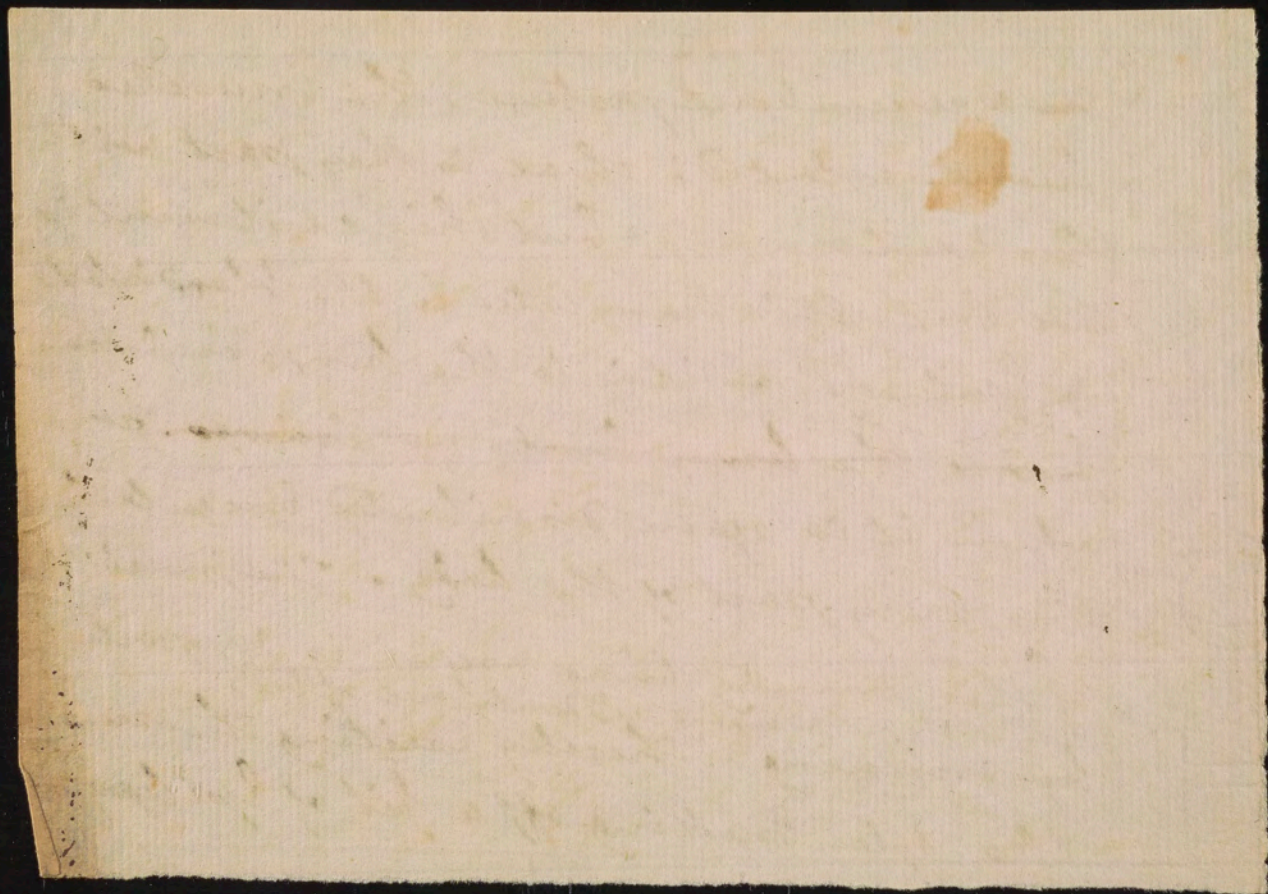
~~112 1. 1. 1. This is indicated by the pulse~~

& tension of the pulse, & should always

precede the use of tonics. Dr. Brown mentions

ours a

== a) in a recumbent posture, the muscles
 become relaxed; that is they part with
 their excitement, - but this excitement is
 not lost. It is translated to the blood vessels
 in Epilepsy, as it is to the lungs in Asthma,
~~and to the lower limbs in Cramps~~ from
 whence it is again distributed irregularly
 thro' every part of the body. The probability
 of this remedy being useful is supported
 by running - ^{rising suddenly out of bed,} thereby exciting the mus-
 -cles, often putting off a fit of Epilepsy.



13

of each other, and ~~the~~ yet they ultimately meet in a point, so as to produce the same effects. They are such depleting remedies as reduce the system gradually below that point in which the vessels - muscles and nerves are capable of morbid action. This is done in the cure of many diseases. The French physicians during the late war in America cured Intermittents by ~~low~~ wholly by cold low diet. No relapses ever took place when the cures were thus performed. The American Physicians saw them with surprise, but could not refute them. The same ⁱⁿ capacity of morbid communications have been produced in the Epilepsy by the following Remedies.

It was in infancy & childhood - Helminths
 1. ^{vs.} This is indicated by the state of the pulse. ^{Child Hobart - helped by Robt. Brown}
~~Dr. Brown says it is a =~~

† The yellow fever morbid convulsions ~~are~~ of the yellow fever are often thus prevented, & of common Remittents by the *Prunus indica*.
 3 a salivation. III

= Cure being performed by using Vt to such
an excess as to bring on Dropsy. The blood
bears all the marks of morbid action, &
particularly ^a very appearance. A yellow fever
in like manner has often destroyed itself by spontaneous
bleeding. It has been prevented by the Diet Dr Cheyne mentions
the case of a Dr Taylor cured by it, & Dr
Cullen says more ^{have been} cured by this, than
by any other remedy. To be effectual it should
reduce the system to a very low degree of activity.

Dr Taylor
He took his evening dinner at home.
The cows from which this milk was taken
fed only upon grass & hay. When ~~the~~ they
fed upon grain this milk disagreed with
him. Perhaps the cure here was not from
the milk, but from the limited quantity of
Aliment, which kept the system in a constant
state of equilibrium, without and thus pre-
vented the ^{a predisposition to an attack of the} ~~development of excitability~~
by the disease. ^{from} too much, or too little
stimulus. An equal temperature of air &
equanimity of mind have had in many
instances the same salutary effects. I have
heard of a case in which a common Diet
by weight and measure has ^{weakened} cured this disease.
Had it been persisted in it would probably
cure it. —

15
111 3 Salivation. This revolutionary remedy
was first used by Dr Hugh Smith of
London. I learnt it from him. It depletes
by the discharge from the mouth, & 2nd
by the Abstinence connected with it. To be
effectual, it should be kept up for a month
or six weeks. I have ~~made two~~ cured two
persons by it - Stewart & Lucy of Virginia,
I tho't I had cured three more, but they
have relapsed. One of them is since died in
a fit of her disease, after being freed from it
three or four years. It is difficult to make
the necessary act on the salivary glands in
this Disease. W. I should always precede it.
~~the other class of remedies is the~~

4 Cold Applications to the head. Ice
should be preferred when attainable, for this
purpose. It should be confined by means of
a bladder or a tin Cap.

5 Flipping in a sitting or inclined posture
in order to prevent an undue determination
of blood to the brain. I have employed these
two last remedies with great advantage
in the case of a gentleman in Maryland.

The 2^d Class of radical remedies for Epilepsy
should be the opposites of those that have
been mentioned. They should be tonics.
These should be of so powerful a nature as
to overcome the predisposing debility of the
system. Their use is suggested by the oc-
casional cases that have been performed by
barbity, pregnancy - burns - the hardships of
a Camp life - and old age all of which impart tone
to the system?

Children named of Conn. ^{not of Conn.} Miss Tom's Son & E. Hobarts boy & Asbach's
- youngest of Blech's Unit. boy all about 10 under 13. Nitrate of P
I ac. saturation 7 1/2 of Dil. - Asenius
but fails in adults. ^{white vit 9 1/2 to 12 but die!}

the magistracy of Bismarck in pills, or
 dissolved in ag. potas. D^r within of Baltimore.
 it will account for each of these remedies having
 the effect of some drugs scattered
 sometimes cured the disease. The vegetable tonics
 universal debility than fever, it follows
 probably succeeded in them, these remedies can only
 be expected by tonic giving them in very large
 doses, full of the disease which I have
 described, while the - of combining them -
 increasing this dose - or it was search for
 powerful metallic tonics succeed in the its
 new tonics more powerful than those
 in common use, or by discovering some
 new medicines belonging to the class of
 tonics - with these ~~new~~ medicines
 a cordial diet, and exercise, or rather
 labor should be combined. I was lately
 consulted by a patient in Epilepsy whose
 fits occurred only on Sundays and on

& what would be the effects of a high fever
 excited by artificial means in an Epileptic
 patient? we have seen it cure Apoplexy,
 & palsy, & we shall soon say it assists in curing
 madness. It is perhaps the convulsions
^{ch} introduced by the small pox - & some other
 forms of fever, are prevented from becoming
 periodical & perpetual - only by the
^{Dr Dyle Roche says he only saw a fever part of fits 22}
 fever which follows them. In a disease
^{months. has long} which eluded experience, and reasoning,
^{is supposed by fever of the small pox.}
 the nothing should be left unattempted
^{ch} which affords the most remote prospect of
 benefit. —

≠ the form of Aura Epileptica. Perhaps this
 is a retrograde motion of the ^{nervous} ~~electrical~~ fluid, &
 that Stimulants & drains applied to the feet
 & legs may be the means of detaining it in its
 proper place, or conveying it out of the system
 when it is excessive in its quantity? I am the

49 in favor
holidays - a strong fact of the efficacy
of labor in curing it. It is an ex-
cellent substitute for the hardships of
camp life. ^{V. I have read of a head ache occurring only on}
^{a Sunday in a lady, & that too from the debility induced by sus-}
^{-pending the usual employments of the week.}
In moderate cases of Epilepsy the
following remedies have been found useful.

- 1 Sitons & Issues. They are commonly
applied to the neck & arms. Perhaps ^{greater} ~~are~~
Advantage would arise from issues in the
legs. The fits seem to ascend from the feet int
- 2 The Actual Caustery applied along the sagit-
tal & coronary Sutures. Dr Haller mentions
3 Cures being performed by this remedy -
or blisters all over the head.
- 4 Glysters of an infusion of Tobacco. Dr
Haller speaks of this efficacy.
- 5 Long Journeys. 6 Change of Climate ^{an agreeable one best}
- 7 Change of Residence. This acts by destroying
^{a case described by Dr Dunderberg in West Indies.}
old impressions & associations, & where a
disposition from humors - cut them out. Two cases thus
cured.

more disposed to cherish a faith in these applica-
-tions from having lately read an account
of its being cured after 25 years standing, by a
bit of the Gout in the feet. Eph: med: vol. 12. 320
return to 2 ~~4~~

~~It is sleeping on a mattress on a hard bed. It is constant~~

~~himself~~ ¹⁰ The sound of large church bells
chimed at first - cured it in ¹¹ ~~12~~ ¹³ Contractions
on the legs. Lenzler mentions two cures being performed
by means of the itch, the one communicated
by design, the other acquired accidentally. Bith.
vol. 1. p 445. 6. In addition to the pain of itching
& the pleasure of scratching which I have supposed
to be the Remedies in cases in which the Itch
cures diseases, let us not forget that many
diseases go off with an itching, & that it is
a favourable sign. It is a ^{always} ~~sign~~ of disease, ~~but~~
~~it is~~ ^{it is} ~~may a mild one, compared with the disease~~ ^{of like dysentery, which}
~~cures~~ ^{cures} even a yellow fever, it may cure diseases
one hundred times more violent than itself.
Dr. ~~the~~ Lenzler attempted in vain to impart
the itch by inoculation. It must be taken in
the natural way - for it belongs exclusively to
the skin. ==

Uniformity of impressions from diet,
Drinks, ^{company} dress, exercise & passions of mind.

Uniformity of diet & impressions from diet &
Drinks is best kept up by never permitting
the Stomach to be full nor empty, & perhaps
by advising diet & drinks by weight & measure.

(k) all these remedies for moderate
degrees of Epilepsy should be used as aux-
-iliaries, or as supplements to the deple-
-ting, and tonic remedies which were
recommended in the worst grades of the
disease. —

From a review of all the remedies for
Epilepsy - the balance ^{of lips is greatly in} is in favor of V.S. - low
diet, & a salivation - ^{as Salivation in persons under puberty,} assisted afterwards by
all the remedies that have been mentioned
according to the Condition of the System.

I have only to add, that in vain
will be our efforts to cure this disease

without removing ^{our patients} out of the
 way of all its exciting causes. ^{crisp in food & strong} Drink, and
 study & excess of ^{as such by reinfusion} vapour, sh^d be avoided. Re-
 -pelled eruptions sh^d be restored - Obstructed
 secretions & excretions sh^d be ^{opened} restored -
^{- Warts} Tumours should be expelled - tumours &
 decayed teeth (if Dr. Smith's Pr. thus cured) ^{removed or extracted} -
 should be extracted - and the passions should
 be reduced to ~~order~~ ^{their} natural &
 just order. ~~etc~~

I have thus gent: laid before you
 upon the subject of a most afflictive and
 a detail of facts with a few conjectures. Let
 awful disease, & with an account of a few, solitary, and
 we request you to give them a place in
 your youthful minds. They are compared
 with mine - a new and fertile soil. Think
~~man that~~ who shall of them in your
 retirement, in & on your beds. The man
 who shall discover a radical & uniform
 cure for Epilepsy will deserve more from
 humanity than the discoverer of the Georg. ¹⁶⁰⁰ ~~1600~~

= recumbent posture, the muscles ^{become} relaxed, ~~and thus~~ that is they ^{part with} ~~lose~~ their ex-
citement - but this excitement is not lost.
It is transferred to the blood vessels & brain where
it in Epilepsy, and to the lungs in Asthma -
& hence perhaps the cause of paroxysms of both
those diseases appearing in sleep or in bed, &
hence the probability of the success of the
means I have suggested to prevent them.
~~They~~ are suggested further by one of the modes
of Obviating a fit, viz. rising out of bed, and
running. return to ~~the~~ [k] p 22

Signs

- 1 unfavourable before initiation in infancy.
- 2 It is ~~relieved~~ ^{be not cured} ~~if it occurs before~~ ⁱⁿ ~~early life, & stops by puberty, it is seldom~~
cured by art. 3 It is most dangerous when
attended with vertigo & mad acts in its intervals.

Case of Epilepsy

The disease under which I pine away an Unfortunate life
Oppress me since my Eighteenth year. I am now in my Twenty-fifth & I seek
Still a salutary remedy -

The fits take me as it follows:

At a dimness of sight succeeds immediately
the apparition of a sparkle, quite alike a watch spring in its form & Oscillations. I
see it at the right temple, It seems to advance rapidly on me, Increasing in size &
✓ Surrounding itself with a kind of blaze, which progressively assumes the aspect of
a large fire. This fire threatens, as it were, to consummate me, I feel its devouring
approach, & After having environed my person & overcome my faculties, It deprives
me of my senses: Then terminate the suffering of that dreadful moment. These two years
my fits are come more frequent; from one to four & even six fits have afflicted me in the
✓ Course of a month. However they are often mere alarms & four times only, in the above
period, they left me senseless. But there is no doubt that each symptom would become
a complet fit, If I could not succeed to stop its progress. The means that I have used
to prevent their completion were, in the beginning, to rub my temples with the hands &
✓ Afterwards to fill up my mouth with salt: But a long use of these means rendered
their effect less efficacious & at last without any effect. Next, I found out that
✓ Shaking my head as fast as possible, acted efficaciously: These vibrations of head are
still the only mean I am acquainted with to prevent a complet fit; But it is not, Unfortunately,
✓ Infallible; though at other times It is sufficient for me to tun as fast as possible.

The numerous remedies that I have used for nerves, made
Nothing on me; Those that I have employed externally, as blistering plasters, procured
me ~~some~~ some relief. I have long thought Bleeding salutary, & on that Account
I came to perform this operation every two months; But I am convinced now that It
✓ Was baneful to me: The two last time that I submitted to it, I was almost instantly
Taken with fits - Changes in the weather affect my health, & a transition from
✓ Heat to cold is a subject of Harm to me - I feel often my sight weakening, & frequently
I feel like a cloud over one eye - If free perspiration is beneficial to me, & has even
✓ The effect of clearing my sight - Exposure to cold, or to a great wind has brought
✓ Some fits upon me, At least, I thought this the cause of them. An obscurity of
sight & a certain arctation at the right side of my face are, commonly, fatal symptoms.
✓ I can never blow my Nose, & Sternutatories have rather a bad effect - After the
fits, I feel usually a heavy pain in the fore-head, & when I am so lucky as to

Stops them, a starting in the right eye, accompanied with a kind of glittering at each start,
✓ together with a quick palpitation of the heart, always follow - Sometimes I am afflicted
With a hard beating in the head; palpitations of the heart; difficult breathing; Keen &
Sudden pains in the head, But the last is not common -

Many times I have experienced a kind of relief of chewing
Stimulating vegetables, as Mustard-leaves &c - When I feel my Nose Stuffed, that I
Can even blow it a little, I have reason to apprehend - I had been advised to wash my
✓ head every morning with cold water, I practised this a good while, But found out that
It was hurtful to me - Bathing weakens me & I think it rather contrary to my health.

I have taken a good many Remedies for nerves & my
lips & the whole without any benefit. I am far from being robust & almost constantly
✓ I am costive - It may be well for me to observe, that an Active life Suits me
perfectly well.

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For St. Andrews

